

receiving with the signed digital message a certificate of the sender, the
certificate being signed using a private key of a certificate authority;
validating the certificate using a public key of the certificate authority; and
extracting the public key of the sender from the certificate for use in validating
the signed digital message.

REMARKS

Claims 1-34 have been cancelled. Claims 35 and 36 have been added.

Support for claims 35 and 36 is found in Fig. 4 and page 16 of the specification.

Claims 35 and 36 correspond to claims 49 and 50 in the parent application Serial
Number 09/133,706 in which a claims 49 and 50 were group III of a 5-way restriction by the
Examiner.

In view of the foregoing amendments and following remarks, it is respectfully
submitted that the claims of this application are now in a condition for allowance and
favorable action thereon is requested.

Respectfully submitted,



Charles R. Malandra, Jr.
Reg. No. 31,038
Attorney of Record
Telephone (203) 924-3217

PITNEY BOWES INC.
Intellectual Property and
Technology Law Department
35 Waterview Drive
P.O. Box 3000
Shelton, CT 06484-8000

006660" 12.13.95